(c) The Bank has agreed, in principle, to consider these projects for financial assistance and these projects are at various stages of preparation. Financial assistance is also proposed to be provided by the World Bank wherever requested by State Government by way of Project preparation Facility (PPF)/TA Loan/PHRD Grant etc. for preparing these projects.

(d) The Union/State Governments have to prepare the projects. The preparation is an on-going process and include wherever necessary conduct of feasibility study, detailed engineering, environmental impact study, Resettlement and Rehabilitation study and technical, financial and environmental clearances from concerned Ministries/Departments. The proposed State Highway Project of Maharashtra is at very preliminary stages of preparation.

**STATEMENT**

| S. No. | Name of the State/UT | Name of the Project |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| **State Sector Projects** | | |
| *Road Sector* | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | State Highway Project |
| 2. | Gujarat | State Highway Project |
| 3. | Haryana | Highway Upgradation Project |
| 4. | Himachal Pradesh | State Road Project |
| 5. | Karnataka | State Road Project |
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | State Road Project |
| 7. | Maharashtra | State Highway Project |
| 8. | NCR Delhi | Development of Grids |
| 9. | Nagaland | State Highway Project |
| 10. | Orissa | State Highway Project |
| 11. | Pondicherry | Road Development Project |
| 12. | Punjab | State Highway Project |
| 13. | Rajasthan | State Highway Project |
| 14. | Tamil Nadu | State Highway Project |
| 15. | Tripura | State Highway Project |
| 16. | Uttar Pradesh | States Road Project |
| 17. | West Bengal | State Highway Project |
| *Power Sector* | | |
| 18. | Haryana | Reform and Restructuring of H.S.E.B. |
| *Water Supply* | | |
| 19. | Punjab | Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project |
| 20. | Punjab | Water Resources Management Project |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | III Madras Water Supply Project |
| **Central Sector Projects** | | |
| 1. | Third National Highway Project | |
| 2. | Powergrid II Project | |

**Two Wheeler Makers**

2264. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "2-Wheeler makers to ride tough on new norms" appeared in the 'Financial Express', New Delhi dated November 12, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The two wheeler manufacturers have represented to the Government that the suggestive 2000 emission norms or two wheelers are too stringent and not capable of being met by them due to lack of appropriate technology. Due consideration would be given to the views of the industry before the emission norms for two wheelers are finally notified.

**Stock Invest Scheme**

2265. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1023 dated March 8, 1996 and 1893 dated, July 26, 1996 regarding stock invest abused by promoters and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The information received is being examined.

**Lok Adalats**

2266. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any

nation-wise programme for Lok Adalats to dispose of the pending cases in various courts in the country to provide speedy and inexpensive justice to the poor and weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, the status of Lok Adalats and the procedure adopted by the Goverment for giving top priority to popularise the Alternative Disputes Resolution methods; and

(c) the number of cases disposed of through Lok Adalats during each of the last three years alongwith the main objective of the Legal Services Authorities Act, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Lok Adalats have been provided a statutory base with the enforcement of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 with effect from 9th November, 1995. Under section 21 of the said Act, every award of the Lok Adalat is a decree of a civil court or, as the case may be, an order of any other court, and every award made by Lok Adalat is final and binding on all the parties to the dispute and no appeal lies to any court against the award. The Lok Adalat as a method of alternative dispute resolution is popularised through the press and other means of publication and through advocates to impress upon their clients of the utility, fruitfulness and expeditious disposal of the cases pending through Lok Adalats.

(c) On the basis of the information as is available from the 26 States/Union Territories where Lok Adalats are being organised, the number of cases disposed of during each of the last three years is contained in the statement enclosed.

The Legal Service Authorities Act has been enacted to constitute legal services authorities to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities and to organise Lok Adalats to secure that operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity.

**STATEMENT**

*The Number of Cases Disposed of Through Lok Adalats During Each of the Last Three Years viz. 1993, 1994 and 1995, State-wise*

*(Based on the information provided by the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards)*

| S.No. | Name of the State/Board | Number of cases disposed of during | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 19,525 | 7,767 | 4,753 |
| 2. | Assam | 1,614 | 1,285 | 2,131 |
| 3. | Bihar | 22 | 3,859 | 600 |
| 4. | *Goa | | 614 (consolidated figure) | |
| 5. | Gujarat | 13,461 | 15,926 | 19,235 |
| 6. | *Haryana | 25,575 | 23,149 | 20,353 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 5,426 | 5,628 | 3,193 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | | 269 (consolidated figure for the last 3 year) | |
| 9. | Karnataka | 54,289 | 15,019 | 20,447 |
| 10. | Kerala | | 14,922 (consolidated figure for the last 3 years) | |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 59,041 | 79,899 | 1,36,389 |
| 12. | *Maharashtra | 8,799 | 12,079 | 10,719 |
| 13. | Manipur | | 712 (consolidated figure) | |
| 14. | *Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Mizoram | | 70 (consolidated figure for the last 3 years) | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16. | Orissa | 64,849 | 81,603 | 43,022 |
| 17. | *Punjab | 14,279 | 12,447 | 2,188 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 79,685 | 70,873 | 56,772 |
| 19. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 8,330 | 11,346 | 8,251 |
| 21. | Tripura | | Information not furnished by the Board | |
| 22. | *Uttar Pradesh | 3,18,285 | 3,10,687 | 3,08,495 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 96 | 53 | 316 |
| 24. | Chandigarh Administration | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 25. | Delhi | 598 | 949 | 2,898 |
| 26. | @Pondicherry | | 863 (consolidated figure) | |

For the Financial Years *viz.* 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96.
For the Financial Years *viz.* 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95.

**Stock Market**

2267. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had a meeting with stock brokers and merchant bankers for revival of the stock-market and speeding up of the economy;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and recommendations/suggestions received therein; and

(c) the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). Such meetings with participants in the securities markets are held from time to time for discussing general issues relating to the market. Taking measures for reforms in the functioning of the stock market is a continuous process and discussions in the meetings referred to above help in this process.

**Alleged Shielding of Scam-Tainted Bank Officials**

2268. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Finance Ministry shields Scam-tainted Bank Official" appearing in the Pioneer dated 7th September, 1996; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the remedial action Government propose to take in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Government have seen the news item referred to in the Question. It is not correct to say that Government is shielding any official as stated in the news item.

A request was received from CBI in July, 1992 seeking concurrence of Government for registering a Regular Case against Shri M. Gopalkrishan, the then Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), Indian Bank, in the matter of grant of credit facilities to a certain company and its associate companies in Singapore. RBI who was consulted in the matter advised that their scrutiny did not establish any criminality on the part of the CMD. RBI, therefore, suggested that it was not a fit case for CBI to proceed in this matter. The matter was considered by the Government and the views of RBI were accepted. CBI was informed accordingly in November, 1993.

CBI have reported that they have since registered a case in the matter.

*[Translation]*

**Bank Branches in Rajasthan**

2269. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued/ proposed to issue licences for the setting up of private sector or State Government sponsored banks in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other States have also sent proposals for the setting up of banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the present number of branches of nationalised, private sector or regional rural banks operating in rural and urban areas in Rajasthan separately;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up some more branches of the said banks in the rural areas; and